

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the Marching Cobras of New York upon the occasion of their outstanding performances during Super Bowl Week 2014

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize the dedication and commitment of our young people who distinguish themselves through excellence in musical performance and competition; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Marching Cobras of New York upon the occasion of their outstanding performances during Super Bowl Week 2014; these talented students led the Super Bowl Championship Vince Lombardi Trophy in the NFL Experience Parade on Wednesday, January 29, 2014, in New York City, and welcomed Super Bowl fans before the game on Sunday, February 2, 2014, at MetLife Stadium, East Rutherford, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, The Marching Cobras of New York is a marching band that includes a drumline, flag team and dance squad, and is comprised of 70 Westchester and New York City middle and high school students; the name "COBRA" stands for: Commitment, Obedience, Belief, Respect, and Achievement; and

WHEREAS, This award-winning, hardworking, and energetic band truly lives up to its name; the Marching Cobras of New York members practice five days a week, four hours a day, and also on Saturdays if they are not performing; some members travel as many as two hours each way to get to practice, and most of the group's members had no musical experience prior to joining; and

WHEREAS, The Marching Cobras of New York helps at-risk youth from across the New York City's five boroughs and Westchester County beat negative influences by embracing music; and

WHEREAS, A non-profit organization working in collaboration with St. Christopher's School in Dobb's Ferry, New York, the mission of the Marching Cobras of New York is to enrich the lives of teens by providing opportunities for artistic expression and teen development through music, marching, dance, and entertainment; several members of the band are students at St. Christopher's School; and

WHEREAS, The Marching Cobras of New York has distinguished itself in its many impressive accomplishments; successes include: being named 1st Place Grand Champions in the 2013 New York City State Championships; taking 1st place in both the New York Salute to Israel Parade and the "Cakeman Parade" in Brooklyn; and being awarded the Pace University Drum-Line Contract; and

WHEREAS, The shining talent of these young musicians and performers has been widely recognized; the Marching Cobras of New York have appeared on "The Joey Reynolds Show," played the Opening Day Performance for Red Bull Arena in Newark, New Jersey, and were special guest performers at Jazz at Lincoln Center; they are soon to be featured in the upcoming Michael Keaton film, "Birdman"; and

WHEREAS, The talent displayed by the Marching Cobras of New York is due in great part to the efforts of Director of Bands Terrel J. Stowers, and his staff, Kevin Young, Sheldon Gomes, Pamela Bodley, and Clifford Wesley, skilled and inspirational tutors, respected for their ability to develop potential into excellence; and

WHEREAS, Achievements of this magnitude are not possible without the strong values of teamwork, commitment, and dedication, and the outstanding members of the Marching Cobras of New York City, as well as Coach Terrel J. Stowers and his staff may take just pride in their accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, This occasion presents an opportunity for this Legislative

Body to wish the Marching Cobras of New York continued success in all of its endeavors; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Marching Cobras of New York upon the occasion of their outstanding performances during Super Bowl Week 2014; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Marching Cobras of New York.